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Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015

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**Serena named sportsperson of the year** metroSPORTS

**Elder Charlie Nelson** examines a strap once used at a local school. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

**Atrocities of residential school system turned into art at Museum of Human Rights** metroNEWS

# 'Concerning' trend in youth suicide: Report

CHILD WELFARE

## Advocate points to lack of stability for kids in foster care

Manitoba's children's advocate is concerned about a growing trend in youth suicides.

Darlene MacDonald said more suicides by young people are being carried out by hanging as opposed to drug overdoses or other methods.

It's a sign, she said, of a firm intent as opposed to a cry for help.

"Whereas previously we saw people taking drugs, and maybe having second thoughts or maybe crying out to parents or caregivers to say, 'I've overdosed' — but there's a chance to get them to the hospital in order to save them — with hanging, we find it very final," MacDonald told a legislature committee examining her most recent annual report Monday.

The number of youth suicides in Manitoba is relatively small; it has varied between 11 and 20 in recent years. A few each year are kids in the child-welfare system, and MacDonald said there are a number of factors at play, including a lack of stability for kids who are shifted between foster homes.

Some children may be moved between dozens of placements before they become adults.

"The number of moves that children have — their lack of connection to anybody significant in their lives — is quite concerning to us," said MacDonald.

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross said the government is trying to increase stability for kids in care.

She pointed to a bill now before the legislature that would formalize so-called customary care — a process aimed at giving indigenous communities more of a say in the system. Its primary aim is to make it more likely that indigenous children can stay in their home communities instead of being shipped away, usually to Winnipeg.

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# Get to know Lolo

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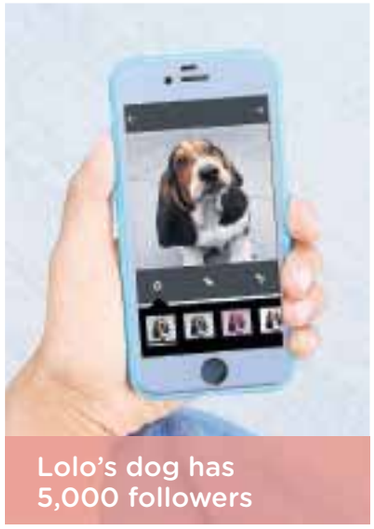

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Slavery, child labour tied to global shrimp supply chains, including Walmart, Red Lobster. **Business**

# Police tour shows off new HQ

SERVICES

## New building to benefit operations when it opens

**Braeden Jones**
Metro | Winnipeg

The new Winnipeg police headquarters is inching closer to opening as some departments start moving in this week.

The new building — plagued by delays and budget issues — is going to allow police to do their job "much more efficiently and effectively," said Const. Jason Michalyshen, who gave a tour to media on Monday.

The classrooms, combat training space, gymnasium and weight room all help to centralize training needs and simplify re-certification, said Michalyshen, adding officers engaged in half-day or shorter courses have less downtime because they're already in the building.

Supt. Bruce Ormiston said the new headquarters will house staff from nine buildings located outside the downtown area, which comes with "the efficiencies of not having to drive to (other areas)."

He said two-thirds of the organization will work in the new 630,000-square-foot space. About 1,200 people will share lunch rooms and meeting spaces.

Ormiston and Michalyshen also stressed operational benefits that come with numerous upgrades over the old facilities.

The take-a-number system in the lobby boasts a touchscreen receiver and spits out tickets that are specific to each visitor's needs, whether it's filing a complaint or picking up a criminal record check.

In the heart of the building, the police's central processing unit has more holding rooms and interview spaces, along with increased security and surveillance.

> **"It's going to allow members to deal with prisoners effectively, quickly.**
> Const. Jason Michalyshen

"We're expecting the turnover to be so much quicker ... it's going to allow members to deal with prisoners effectively, quickly and again get members out on the street more quickly," said Michalyshen.

The new headquarters will also centralize 911 and Winnipeg police dispatch with up-to-date technology.

Ormiston estimates it will take seven months for the move-in to be complete, with the building opening to the public in June or July.

**Const. Jason Michalyshen stands in one of the new interrogation rooms.** ALL PHOTOS BY CHRISD.CA

### DELAYS

**Cost creeps up**

The new police headquarters has been delayed by more than a year and is $75 million over budget.

Originally pegged at $105 million, plus $35 million for the purchase of the building from Canada Post, the cost is now around $214 million.

Police were meant to begin moving into the building in late summer 2014, but flood damage from a rainstorm — which is still being repaired as mitigating measures are installed — pushed the date back to summer 2015. Further delays pushed it back to this month.

The headquarters have also been subject to two separate City of Winnipeg audits and an ongoing RCMP investigation. METRO

**The red lights in the new 911 emergency centre let supervisors know when an operator is on a call.**

**The lobby is brighter and more spacious than the current lobby at the Public Safety Building.**

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# The best of a bad bunch

ENVIRONMENT

## Concerns as conservation of caribou is 'spotty at best'

Manitoba and Saskatchewan come out on top of a mediocre class in a new review of how Canada's provinces and territories are protecting vulnerable woodland caribou.

"They've been taking it seriously," said Eric Hebert-Daly, national director of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. "They've taken the bull by the horns and really driven things."

Woodland caribou are considered a strong indicator of a healthy boreal forest. While there remain about 32,000 woodland caribou across the country, their habitat is increasingly fragmented and degraded by industrial development and many herds are in danger of disappearing.

The federal government has written a recovery strategy for the animals that requires the provinces to preserve enough habitat to keep them on the landscape. Scientists say habitat for woodland caribou can be no more than 35 per cent disturbed for their numbers to remain stable.

Some provinces have stepped up, said Hebert-Daly.

In November, Manitoba created a 900-square-kilometre protected area, all of which lies within caribou range.

Woodland Caribou are an indicator of a boreal forest's overall health. CONTRIBUTED

> **Ontario has taken no meaningful action.**
> Eric Herbert-Daly

Saskatchewan now requires new forest management plans to demonstrate at least 65 per cent of caribou habitat will be kept undisturbed.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the new Mealy Mountains National Park will permanently protect at least one caribou herd. Quebec added 5,000 square kilometres to its roster of protected spaces, some of which is home to caribou.

And even one-time environmental bad-boy Alberta has stopped selling energy leases on caribou habitat.

Other provinces? Not so much, Hebert-Daly said.

"Ontario has really taken no meaningful action since the very beginning," he said.

Eleven of the province's 13 caribou ranges are so degraded they won't support caribou into the future.

Canada's performance this year on caribou recovery has been spotty at best, Hebert-Daly said.

"We're talking about an increase in protection of caribou habitat of one per cent since last year. These are important steps, but they're still very, very small and aren't at the rate they need to be to get to where we need to be."

Federal legislation requires provinces to have their protection strategies and range plans in place by 2017.

The report suggests only Saskatchewan is on track to meet that deadline.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

## Fontaine accused in court

The man accused of murdering and dumping the body of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine will appear in a Winnipeg courtroom Tuesday.

Raymond Joseph Cormier, 53, was arrested in Vancouver last week, and brought back for a scheduled court appearance Monday.

However, according to reports the matter was put over until Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Winnipeg police arrested Cormier on a charge of second-degree murder following a 16-month investigation after Fontaine's body was pulled from the Red River on Aug. 17, 2014.

Fontaine was a ward of Manitoba Child and Family Services at that time, but had run away.

During her disappearance, police believe Fontaine and Cormier became "acquainted" at a house in the east end of the city.

Police allege Cormier murdered Fontaine on their last encounter together.

METRO STAFF

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# Artwork vivid witness to residential school system

HISTORY

## Display piece now in city at Museum for Human Rights

**Stephanie Taylor**
Metro | Winnipeg

Carey Newman knew little about what the words "residential school" meant when he was growing up.

Some of what the West Coast artist remembers thinking was that it was simply a term used to describe a place where people lived.

"It also, at the time, meant that my dad didn't like rice pudding and didn't like scalloped potatoes because that's all they got to eat there," Newman said.

But it was during his teenage years when Newman said he and his father began to reconcile their relationship that he learned the truth behind Canada's residential school system, and the scars it left imprinted on survivors, like his father.

"I started to understand what 'residential school' meant, and then I started to understand what my dad was all about."

Newman shared some of his personal revelation on Monday during the Winnipeg opening of his installation, The Witness Blanket, at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

The exhibit's opening anticipates the release of the final report by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Ottawa on Tuesday.

Newman said his 12-metre long work is formed of 887 objects collected from 77 sites, across each province and territory.

Together, he says, the collage of artifacts stands as a monument to recognize the children of residential schools.

There's a collection of badges that was passed out to children for succeeding in cooking and sewing, a mangled shoe found at a former school site in the Yukon, and a selection of old photographs and a door from a B.C. school Newman's uncle once attended.

Despite having begun his healing journey in the 1970s, residential school survivor and author Theodore Fontaine said seeing the artwork was emotionally triggering.

In particular, he said, it was especially stirring to come across a wash basin found behind the piece's main display.

"We were victims of that particular time and then, of course, we became survivors. But more and more you confront what it was that turned your life upside down," Fontaine said Monday.

"You didn't even know as a little boy, as a little child, what it was doing to you."

> **My dad didn't like rice pudding and didn't like scalloped potatoes because that's all they got to eat there.**
> Carey Newman

**Artist Carey Newman** was inspired to create The Witness Blanket when the Truth and Reconciliation Commission called for more commemorative action to highlight the atrocities of Canada's residential school system. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

**The Witness Blanket** will be on display until June 2016. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

WEB SECURITY

## 'Vague' Twitter warning noted

**Braeden Jones**
Metro | Winnipeg

A Winnipeg non-profit was among a group of Twitter users to receive an ominous message from the social media company Monday, but one of its key people says he's unfazed by the warning.

Rob Keizer, a founding director of Winnipeg-based web security buffs Coldhak, said the alert was "surprising but not unheard of."

The message from Twitter was sent "as a precaution," and said Coldhak was one of a "small group of accounts that may have been targeted by state-sponsored actors."

Coldhak's business is promoting personal privacy and anonymity online.

"Doing what we do, we tend to have a higher level of security than most people online, so as a result nothing has changed for us," Keizer said.

"We operate securely. We use secure communication, it's just what we do...

"In that sense we haven't changed anything, and don't feel the need to."

Keizer explained the only surprising part of the alert was that the attack was potentially state-sponsored, or launched either by a government or body acting on behalf of one.

"Unfortunately it's so vague," Keizer said.

"It would have been helpful if (Twitter) had given us more information, but it's not their policy to do that... Generally speaking, it's good Twitter is at least telling us about this."

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WEATHER FORECAST

# Cold, lots of snow come to Manitoba

With only 10 days left until Christmas — yes, 10 — Jack Frost will be stopping by for a visit just in time for the holidays.

Meteorologists at Environment Canada seem to be feeling festive with a predication that "those dreaming of a white Christmas will be shouting 'let it snow, let it snow' on Tuesday night as a broad area of snow moves into the province from North Dakota."

Precise snowfall amounts are as of yet unknown, according to a weather statement issued Monday.

> **This abrupt shift will be a shock to many.**
> Environment Canada

However, meteorologists are estimating between five to 10 centimetres of the white stuff will fall in southern Manitoba, while some parts could see upward of 10 to 20 centimetres fall in just 24 hours.

That's just the right amount to create a "winter wonderland, with plenty of supplies for your own Frosty the Snowman," the statement reads.

Along with the snow will come a drop in temperatures to more seasonal averages, with daytime highs of -10 C and overnight lows dipping down to -20 C on Friday overnight.

Since the beginning of November, Environment Canada says, Winnipeg has only experienced four days with below-normal temperatures.

"This abrupt shift will be a shock to many but will fortunately be short-lived, with slightly warmer-than-seasonal temperatures returning next week," the statement reads.

METRO

CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION

# Charity receives its largest donation

Organizers at the Children's Wish Foundation had more than 100,000 reasons to smile Monday.

The foundation's chapter for Manitoba and Nunavut recently announced receiving a donation of $102,225 from Development Systems Group Inc., an international IT solutions provider for the automotive industry, stationed on the University of Manitoba campus.

This marks the second year in a row the company has broken records with the size of its donation.

"Last year DMT went from an unknown to our largest corporate donor overnight. To have beaten their own record and done it again this year is absolutely unbelievable," chapter director Maria Toscano said in a statement.

> **Absolutely unbelievable.**
> Maria Toscano

The company has been running an internal program dubbed Payroll for the Needy in an effort to give back to the community. METRO

An artist's rendering of the outside of the proposed renovations at McPhillips Street Station casino. CONTRIBUTED

# Casino to undergo $45M makeover

RENOVATIONS

## New space to include fantasy sports, perhaps escape rooms

**Evan Matthews**
For Metro

Government renovations can be a gamble, but Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries thinks McPhillips Street Station is a safe bet.

The casino will undergo $45 million in renovations and repairs, the organization announced Monday.

In addition to exterior and interior renovations and a facelift, a sky bridge will be added, linking the parkade to the casino's second floor.

"These buildings have been around for a while now," said John Stinson, CEO of Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries. "We want to bring them up to date and compete with our neighbours to the south."

An addition to the front of the building, the entrance and the second-floor link will be the renovation's key components.

However, Stinson added that with fantasy sports becoming a bigger and more lucrative form of gaming, a dedicated area will be added.

Stinson said poker would also have a specific area, while escape rooms are also being discussed. An escape room is a game in which participants have to break a code to get out.

**Robert Smith said the renos won't draw him to the casino more frequently.**
EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO

"We're looking at better using the underutilized space we have on the second floor," said Stinson. "We're just adding entertainment options people can participate in."

But some casino gamers said Monday they think the money could be better spent.

"I don't think the renovation will draw me more than I already am. The skywalk is going to be nice, but it's convenience," said Robert Smith.

"I'd rather see tax dollars used for something else, like city infrastructure or development."

Stinson said the appearance of the casino will be different, but there shouldn't be any noticeable difference to gaming and entertainment programming for those who appreciate the current model.

Stinson said data exists suggesting people would prefer a first-floor link from the parkade to the casino.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

# Report released on assisted dying

The practice of physician-assisted dying should be publicly funded by Canadian provinces, available to adults of any age, and not put doctors at risk of criminal prosecution, an expert advisory panel said Monday.

The recommendations were among 43 in the final report from the Provincial-Territorial Expert Advisory Group, which was formed with input from 10 of the country's 13 provinces and territories.

The proposed guidelines found instant favour among advocates, who praised the panel for navigating a quagmire of competing policy concerns without losing sight of patients' needs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH

# Sick boy will not get costly drug coverage

A New Brunswick mother says she's devastated after the provincial government rejected her request to fund an expensive drug treatment for her seriously ill son.

Morgan Doucet is 10 and has a rare blood condition called morquio syndrome that stunts growth and causes multiple health problems, including heart and airway disease.

There is no cure, but in 2014 Health Canada approved a new drug to treat the condition called Vimizim.

Last year, Doucet's doctor asked the province to pay for the treatment, which can cost about $200,000 a year. But in November his mother, Carolle Mazerolle, got word the province had turned them down.

"I cried," said Mazerolle in a phone interview from her home in the small community of Baie-Sainte-Anne.

"I find that terrible. I have a sick child. They have a treatment there that could help him, and they won't give it to me."

Mazerolle said her son's condition has already deteriorated since they made the request of the province. "The more I'm waiting, the worse he's getting," she said.

**Morgan Doucet struggles with a rare blood disease.**
CONTRIBUTED

A spokesman for the New Brunswick Department of Health would not discuss Doucet, citing privacy concerns. But in an email, Bruce Macfarlane noted that the national advisory body that recommends whether drugs should be covered determined that Vimizim should not be.

Patients can apply to have the New Brunswick government cover treatment not listed in the drug plan, but such cases are referred to experts in Ontario for review. In Doucet's case, the expert rejected the request, saying that Doucet had symptoms that were "extremely unlikely" to be alleviated by Vimizim. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**QUEBEC NO CHARGES IN 2014 BLAZE** No criminal charges will be laid in the fire that killed 32 people at a seniors' residence in Quebec nearly two years ago, the Crown announced Monday. "In light of the expert and witness testimony that was heard and the evidence gathered by investigators, the DPCP (the Crown) is not able to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a criminal act was ever committed," prosecutor Annie Landreville said.

FRANCES DROUIN/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Mom tells girl's trafficking story

PROSTITUTION

## 'Boyfriend pimp' took her daughter away

Hindy Pennock would drive around in circles until the early hours of the morning looking for her 13-year-old daughter. That's how it started.

Then she noticed a change in her daughter's underwear, from normal little girl pants to lacy, lower-cut undies.

"We taught our daughter not to get into cars with strangers, but we did not prepare her for a good-looking guy to walk into her life and traffic her. We never knew about 'boyfriend' pimps," she said.

Hindy Pennock was a stay-at-home mom. Her husband, Ray, was a businessman. They lived in a nice neighbourhood in Winnipeg with their two daughters. Then, they lost one.

For 12 years, Pennock's daughter Jessica was trapped, trafficked from Winnipeg to Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver, forced to have sex for money.

When she first ran away from home, she was gone only a weekend. Then she was gone for a few weeks, then months.

She would always call home, but only for 30 seconds at a time, enough to say, "I love you, Mommy. I'll be home sometime." Enough for Pennock to know her daughter was, at least, alive.

When Pennock looks back today, she can identify some of the warning signs she missed all those years ago. She has taken the difficult step of publicly sharing her story to help others.

"We never thought in a million years that this could happen to her. Never, ever," she said.

The Pennock family changed provinces when Jessica was 10 and she was "horrifically" bullied by her new classmates. "We saw this bright, self-reliant little girl disappear. She just started to vanish," Pennock said.

To help her daughter try to make friends, Pennock drove Jessica to a recreation centre to play basketball on Friday nights. There, she met a boy who gave her crack cocaine, but said it was just like marijuana.

Soon she was addicted.

She started to lie and run away. At 15, she told her parents she was moving in with her new boyfriend, but she never let them meet him.

Some days she would come home with her nails painted or her hair done; other days she would come home "beaten black and blue" with boot marks all over her body. Jessica was silent when her parents asked what was going on.

Her mother said they went to the police, to psychiatrists, teachers and doctors, but no one could help.

"Just let her know that you love her and one day she'll come home," Pennock was told.

Often the only place parents can seek help from is advocacy organizations that work with victims and understand the power dynamic at between pimps and girls.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## WATCH FOR:

1. Hiding the identity of boyfriends or new friends.
2. Lingerie crumpled up and stashed under the bed.
3. Business cards from strip clubs or escort agencies.
4. New clothing appearing in the wardrobe.
5. Becoming possessive of computers or cellphones.
6. Wallets or handbags filled with cash.

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# TRANSIT TUESDAY
Weekly Transit News Update

### WINNIPEG TRANSIT PRESENTS THE SANTA BUS

The Santa Bus is driving the holiday spirit until Thursday, December 24. All cash fares and donations collected on the Santa Bus go directly to the Christmas Cheer Board. Look for the Santa Bus on Route 19 Marion-Logan, Notre Dame all this week.

Bus #147 features larger-than-life vinyl graphics of Santa and all his reindeer. "The Santa Bus raised $13,000 in 2014 and we're ho-ho-hoping to collect even more this year," said Mr. Claus. For more information about the Christmas Cheer Board, visit christmascheerboard.ca. To sponsor a hamper, call 204-989-5680. Thanks for supporting the Christmas Cheer Board!

### TRACK THE SANTA BUS IN REAL-TIME!

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### TAKE A FREE RIDE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Celebrate safely! Let Winnipeg Transit be your designated driver this New Year's Eve. Starting at 7:00 pm, ride Winnipeg Transit for FREE until end of service (approximately 1:35am). Over 15,000 people took advantage of the free service last year. For route and schedule information, visit winnipegtransit.com or call 311.

Take a Free Ride on New Year's Eve is sponsored by Manitoba Public Insurance. As a road safety leader in the province, Manitoba Public Insurance is committed to reducing alcohol-related collisions, deaths and injuries.

### WINNIPEG TRANSIT IS HIRING!

Bus operator applications are being accepted. Don't miss your opportunity to join the team of professional bus operators at Winnipeg Transit. This is a long term career opportunity that offers above average pay and superior benefits. Fully paid 6 week training program is provided to successful candidates. Visit winnipegtransit.com for more details.

# Trump's comments affecting children

UNITED STATES

## Young minds suffer from Islamophobic sentiment

A backlash against American Muslims is leaving a mark on some of the nation's youngest minds.

After seeing U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump call on television for barring Muslims from entering the country, Sofia Yassini, 8, checked the locks on her family's home in Plano, Texas, imagining the army would take them away. She raced to her room and stuffed a pair of Barbie dolls, a tub of peanut butter and a toothbrush into a bag. She insisted on bringing boots for the long boat ride she imagined was coming.

When her mother, Melissa, arrived home from her work as a human resources manager, Sofia ran into her arms and cried.

"I want people to understand the impact that their words have on these children," said Melissa Yassini, who described the experience in a Facebook post that had been shared more than 21,000 times as of Monday. "We often forget, we're waging war on one another with words, and we're adults. We can take it. The kids are suffering with this. They go to school every day and they're afraid to tell people they're Muslim. This has to stop."

**Sofia Yassini, 8, with her mother Melissa Yassini.** Parents say U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump's comments are causing confusion for children. LM OTERO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-Muslim sentiment was building in the days before 14 people were killed Dec. 2 in the massacre at a disability centre in Southern California by a Muslim couple investigators say were inspired at least in part by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group. Experts say Trump's call Dec. 7 to keep all Muslims from entering the U.S. — a plan he said would apply only temporarily and to non-citizens — only fanned the flames.

Muslim parents say their children hear disparaging remarks in their own communities, see hateful bumper stickers and T-shirts, and have had friends abandon them.

Ahad Khan, 12, came home from school in rural Westminster, Md., in tears because his best friend called him a future terrorist, according to Ahad's father, Raza Khan.

Khan, the chairman of the science department at Carroll Community College, shared Ahad's experience in an open letter to Trump on Facebook. As of Monday, it had been shared more than 4,300 times.

As Khan tucked his son in last week, he left him with the words he recited when he became a U.S. citizen two decades ago: "One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

"I don't know why, I don't know how people forget that," Khan said later, fighting back tears.

"We have to; otherwise we're dividing ourselves."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.**
> Line from U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, recited by Ahad Khan to his son Raza Khan last week

REFUGEES

## EU to pay to house migrants in Greece

The European Union pledged Monday to spend 80 million euros ($88 million US) to house migrants in Greece even as it seeks tougher procedures for asylum-seekers travelling to the continent.

Kristalina Georgieva, the EU Commissioner for Budget and Human resources, signed an agreement for a rent subsidy program for up to 20,000 people next year. Thousands of stranded refugees are currently being housed in old venues from the 2004 Olympics, at camps on Greek islands, or are sleeping in tents pitched in city squares and parks in Athens.

Nearly 800,000 migrants and refugees have crossed through Greece this year, hoping to travel to northern Europe. But Macedonia and other Balkan countries last month toughened their border rules, restricting crossings to those from war-torn nations like Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan and stranding others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Troops capture stronghold**
Syrian troops and allied militiamen seized control of a sprawling military airbase near Damascus on Monday, a rare victory for the government in an area considered an opposition stronghold.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**French preschool teacher fabricates attack**
A preschool teacher who claimed to have been attacked by a masked assailant invoking ISIL made up the story, French prosecutors said Monday.

The attack reported Monday morning by the teacher set off a manhunt in Paris. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Chicago firefighter falls to his death down shaft**
Chicago firefighter Daniel Capuano, 42, died early Monday after falling two storeys down an elevator shaft while fighting a smoky blaze in a warehouse on the city's South Side.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel said the father of three made the "ultimate sacrifice." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Taxi industry hits back with new app

RIDE SHARING

## Unlike Uber, The Ride tacks on service provider's fees

Canada's taxi industry has a new tool in its fight against the rise of Uber.

The Ride, a new app launched on Monday, works similarly to Uber by offering passengers a more tech-savvy way to connect with local taxicab companies.

Like Uber, users must open a personal profile and then use the cellphone's GPS location feature before they hail a cab through the virtual service.

Unlike Uber, The Ride comes with extra fees through your wireless provider.

The app will charge a fixed $2 "convenience fee" for hailing a nearby taxi.

In smaller towns, where local cab companies may not support the app yet, The Ride will charge $1 to connect the passenger to a local dispatch centre over the phone.

Toronto-based CellWand Communications created The Ride. CellWand is the company behind #TAXI, a voice phone service that connects customers to a local cab company for a service fee.

**A police officer rides his bike between a row of cabs** blocking the street during a recent taxi drivers day of protest against Uber in Toronto. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**$1.2B**

**The amount Canadians spent on taxis last year,** according to a report from the Competition Bureau. The agency also found Uber prices were about 36 per cent lower than a comparable cab fare.

CellWand's new app also provides real-time public transit schedules for 75 cities and communities across the country, with plans to roll out data on bike-sharing services next year.

Taxi-cab operators have been clashing with Uber, urging local governments in some cities to ban the service over various concerns, such as proper licensing and insurance.

Toronto cab drivers staged a protest last week to back their call for local bylaws that would clamp down on UberX drivers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

INVESTIGATION

# Major retailers sell slave-peeled shrimp

Poor migrant workers and children are being sold to factories in Thailand and forced to peel shrimp that ends up in global supply chains, including those of Walmart and Red Lobster, an investigation has found.

At the Gig Peeling Factory, nearly 100 Burmese labourers were trapped, most working for almost nothing. They spent 16 hours a day with their hands in ice water, ripping the guts, heads, tails and shells off shrimp. "They didn't let us rest," said Eae Hpaw, 16, her arms a patchwork of scars from shrimp-related infections and allergies. "We stopped working around 7 in the evening. We would take a shower and sleep. Then we would start again around 3 in the morning."

Pervasive human trafficking has helped turn Thailand into one of the world's biggest shrimp providers. Despite repeated promises by businesses and government, abuses persist, fuelled by corruption and complicity among authorities.

Hundreds of shrimp-peeling sheds are hidden in plain sight in Samut Sakhon, an hour outside Bangkok, some with slaves locked inside. Last month, Associated Press journalists followed and filmed trucks loaded with freshly peeled shrimp from the Gig shed to major Thai exporting companies.

U.S. customs records show the shrimp made its way into the supply chains of major U.S. food stores and retailers such as Walmart, Kroger, Whole Foods, Dollar General and Petco, along with restaurants such as Red Lobster and Olive Garden. It also entered supply chains for some well-known seafood brands and pet foods, including Chicken of the Sea and Fancy Feast. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Win Win Than, 25,** who worked in a shrimp shed in Samut Sakhon, Thailand, to pay off her $550 US debt. She said she tried to run away but was caught and handcuffed in a room. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Big banks partnering with financial tech rivals**

Financial technology startups are partnering with the very banks the so-called fintech companies had set out to upheave. CIBC has waded into online lending through Montreal-based upstart Thinking Capital, Scotiabank has invested in Kabbage, a U.S.-based lender, and Royal Bank CEO Dave McKay has noted the importance of collaborating with early stage companies. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, December 15, 2015

## YANN MARTEL: DEAR SANTA, PLEASE GIFT-WRAP THE EARTH

# Father Christmas, please take this bruised and battered world, wrap it in paper, and return it so that we might open it up with the same wonder and delight that children show when they open the gifts you bring them.

*Letters Live, an annual celebration of the power of written correspondence held in London since 2013, was launched this year with letters to Father Christmas by such celebrities as Benedict Cumberbatch and Russell Brand. Canadian author Yann Martel also put pen to paper in a heartfelt plea to Santa.*

Dear Father Christmas,

I feel impelled to write to you this year, such is the state of the world. The crisis in Syria, with its bountiful bloodshed and endless flow of refugees, the psychotic insanity of ISIL, the climate, which keeps changing for the worse while we only pretend to change our carbon-fuel-devouring ways — to name just a handful of crises that make me shake my head and drop it in my hands — what is one to do but appeal to a greater force? And you are a greater force, are you not? You still manage to make people smile, if only briefly. Is it the bringing together of families, some of whom are genuinely glad to see each other again? Is it the music, those lovely hymns that pull at our hearts? Is it the scenes around Christmas trees that remind us of our younger, happier selves? Is it the gift-giving which, however commodified, still involves giving with the aim to please? Is it the focus on a meal that is meant not to be rushed but enjoyed in and of itself? Whatever it is, you still have an effect, don't you? Children still turn to you with glee, and grown-ups follow them, even if they pretend they don't want to.

**Could you double your output? On one extra day, could you come down from your snowy realm and spread good cheer to all?**

I appeal to you. Father Christmas, please take this bruised and battered world, wrap it in gift-wrap paper, and return it to us so that we might open it up with the same sense of wonder and delight that children show when they open the gifts you bring them. Make this world once again the beautiful, marvellous present that it is.

I hesitate. As far as I know, no lasting cessation of hostilities, no reconciliation has ever come about as a result of your intervention. No group — neither the United Nations nor any country nor any religious or political group — has ever asked you to be a mediator or a negotiator. You are jolly and friendly and very generous, but somehow you are left to yourself in your arctic kingdom. How foolish of me then to ask world peace of you. I'm asking too much. You are as impotent as the other great talkers of peace and love, the Jesuses and Muhammads and Krishnas and Buddhas of this world who talk love while their fervent disciples wage war and terror.

But perhaps the problem is that they ask so much of us. Jesus and Muhammad and Krishna and Buddha are demanding moral patrons. It takes a clear mind and a steady heart to follow them sensibly day in and day out. You, on the other hand, of the 365 and one-quarter days of the year, you work to have an effect on only a single day. Of course, that single day takes much preparation on your part, much like writing even the shortest poem demands much work. But still, one divided by 365.25: That's only a 0.27 per cent positive output. On one day, December 25, you are a busy man whose simple aim is to spread good cheer. And you do that job well.

So I ask this of you, only this, Father Christmas, please could you double your output? On one extra day (in summer perhaps — we do tire of winter), could you come down from your snowy realm and spread good cheer to all? Make it so that on one additional day of the year we make a Christmas-like effort to be lovingly kind to all and everyone.

World peace on two days of the year — is that too much to ask? I hope it isn't.

Yours humbly,
Yann Martel

ISTOCK

**Yann Martel** is a Canadian novelist and short-story writer. He is the author of 2001's Life of Pi, which won the Man Booker Prize. He lives and writes in Saskatoon.

## ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

# Make peace with holiday chaos and savour the season

I met a friend for coffee, and neither of us had words for how we're doing.

"Blaahh!" she said with her hands flailing in the air.

It had taken us an extended series of emails to finally pick a time and place to meet — we're each busy, our brains full, at this time of year. She has better reasons: kids, the culmination of a few major projects, the anticipation of a few more. But even I — who normally have ample time for Gilmore Girls reruns — have been packing my days with holiday get-togethers tight as a bulging suitcase.

My sense of calm is out the window, and it's wonderful.

The drink date with a few friends where I meet someone new, funny and charmingly opinionated.

The dinner date where we decided to attend one random event a week in 2016 and call it The Outing (Salsa! Pottery! An academic lecture of the esoteric kind!).

The lunch with my aunt and uncle where politics stayed off the table and we bonded over old stories of my grandmother, which expand in the retelling.

The brunch/skate/The Power Plant gallery trip where we ate slowly, slid on ice as the lake water rippled by and found ourselves in a beautiful, yet repellent, infestation of black paper butterflies.

**It doesn't take much to see the precious side.**

The drunken debate over communism at the pub. The "once a year whether you need it or not" lunch with an old family friend and his joke-ready compatriots. The cosy, classic dinner at my home away from home.

And the other morning's coffee date, which left me excited about everything, and convinced of all things hopeful, most especially the joy of new friends.

In a city where I can go months without seeing some people, this time of year is a whirlwind of love, a helter-skelter romp through relationships, a fast-track reminder of how lucky I am, how rich in kind people.

This is the Christmas feeling. Of time well spent. Each little visit its own small gift. Its own chance to be smitten, and to feel good about who you are, and where you are, and who you know. That can be an elusive sense much of the year, when you're just trying to get by, and get something done, while the world seems held up by intractable wars, unfathomable suffering and impending doom of one kind or another.

Perhaps it is, but it is not only.

And as it turns out, it doesn't take much, or long, to see the precious side.

Just a cup of coffee.

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Tuesday, December 15, 2015

**Fans get chance to say Hello to Adele**
Singer to embark on 56-night North American tour in 2016 with stops in Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.

# Period pieces are trending

APPS

## Women's health goes high-tech

In the tech world, women's health is at the forefront — with hundreds of apps focusing on everything from getting pregnant to detecting breast cancer. Lots of other high-tech products in the works too, from Bluetooth-connected menstrual cups to high-tech pill cases that send an alert to your phone if you skip your birth control.

Not surprisingly, women around the world are embracing it all.

Travel writer Natalie Preddie Zamojc, 30, and her husband Mark are trying to have a baby, and Zamojc is using a popular period tracking app — aptly named Period Tracker — to see when she's most fertile. It gives her a sense of control over a process that's often based on luck, she says.

"Now, it'll send me a message being like, "You've ovulating!" and then it's go, go, go," Zamojc says with a laugh.

As the New York Times reported earlier this year, two period tracking apps alone — GP International's Period Tracker, the app Zamojc swears by, and Abishkking's Period Calendar/Tracker — have been downloaded more than 10 million times from the Android store, based on data from the IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics.

**Pillsy, an app coupled with a unique pouch, helps women keep on top of taking their birth control.** COLE BURSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Recently, thousands backed a Kickstarter campaign for the Looncup, raising over $160,000 for the silicone cup that sends fluid volume updates to your phone or Apple Watch through a sensor.

And, according to a 2014 TechCrunch report, women's health apps raised more money in the previous year "than all other health-focused apps combined."

It's a big business — and one that's empowering for women, says Toronto-based sexual health educator Lyba Spring. "Anything that gives a woman more control over her reproductive health and her fertility… is a good thing," she says. Certain aspects of women's health should involve a family doctor, Spring adds — like understanding the changes in cervical mucus, for instance — but for basic health and fertility issues, apps are definitely useful, she says.

Jennifer Aldoretta, CEO of Groove, an American company whose app of the same name helps women track their cycles, was born out of its founder's own lengthy reproductive health struggles

"My period brought with it horrible cramps," Aldoretta recalls. "I would vomit from the pain."

Aldoretta started doing her own research on reproductive health and hormones, which led her to develop the Groove app, which she now uses to manage her painful cramps without having to take the pill.

The app, which launched for the iPhone in 2014, allows her to track certain physiological changes that occur throughout your menstrual cycle — such as basal body temperature and cervical fluid secretion — which are both influenced by hormone levels, she says.

Apps can definitely be helpful for women, with many offering a "simple, cost-effective way" to prevent, or make possible, a pregnancy, says Dr. Yolanda Kirkham, an obstetrician-gynecologist who works at Women's College Hospital and St. Joseph's Health Centre in Toronto. She's noticed a rise in the number of her patients using period trackers and other apps, she says, and encourages her patients to try them out. Women just need to be smart and research the apps and technology they're using, Kirkham says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### HEALTH

**Birth control reminder**
Women on the pill make up nearly half of all unplanned pregnancies. With that in mind, a six-person team of University of Toronto graduate students has been developing Pillsy, a smart pouch and app that knows if someone takes their birth control pill — and reminds them when they don't. "We've had a number of women come to us and say they're anxious and not on the birth control pill, but if they had the Pillsy pouch and app, they'd trust themselves more to go on the birth control pill," says Pillsy CTO Valentin Peretroukhin.

**The Looncup sends fluid volume updates to your phone through a sensor.**

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DATING DUO

# Bieber's stepping out with Kourtney

This is one I certainly did not see coming. In what could possibly just be a case of some tabloid editor playing around with their celebrity gossip Magnetic Poetry set, Justin Bieber is now rumored to be making kissy-kissy with … Kourtney Kardashian? I think I read that right. The 21-year-old Canadian serial apologist and the 36-year-old recently single reality TV star were spotted hitting up a club in L.A. together recently and departing in the same SUV. And according to CNN, a source says they were "making out," so there you go. Bieber, however, has also been spotted squiring a mystery blonde around town — and on a yachting excursion — but the gossip is that he and the Kardashian who isn't Kim or Khloe are "casually" seeing each other. So there's that. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

## GOSSIP BRIEF

**Mariah's holiday chart topper not quite as sparkly**

Mariah Carey's holiday hit All I Want For Christmas Is You is 20 years old. Yes, two decades. Since its release, it has been played practically on loop every holiday season — even by people who don't celebrate Christmas. But now, the Christmas queen has been dethroned.

According to PlayNetwork, The Shins' cover of Paul McCartney's Wonderful Christmastime is now the most played holiday song, bumping Carey down to No. 2. Christina Aguilera's song Christmas Time rounds out the top three. EMILY LAURENCE/METRO NEW YORK

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

# Being funny is in the delivery

**THE SHOW:** Brooklyn Nine-Nine, S3, E6 (City/Fox)
**THE MOMENT:** The Practice Breakup

**Captain Raymond Holt, right, and Detective Rosa Diaz do a hilariously deadpan rehearsal Diaz's breakup with Holt's nephew Marcus, in Brooklyn Nine-Nine.** CONTRIBUTED

Captain Raymond Holt (Andre Braugher) and Detective Rosa Diaz (Stephanie Beatriz) are in his office. She's been dating his nephew, Marcus, which has made them hilariously uncomfortable together, because they are the most deadpan, least emotionally demonstrative people on Earth. (Both actors remain straight-faced and even-voiced at all times.)

Now that Diaz is breaking up with Marcus, she and Holt are sad (they like each other), but mainly relieved (they can return to deadpan emotionlessness). "I've been told it helps to acknowledge the dumpee's feelings," Holt says. "Ew," Diaz replies. "Don't worry, we'll practice," he says. She straightens her shoulders. "Marcus," she says to Holt, "I think we should break up." "That makes me feel sad. I am sad," he replies. "Your sadness is noted," she says. "I feel acknowledged," he says. "It will take me eight minutes to collect my things." They smile, albeit tightly. That went well.

To achieve greatness as a sitcom, the humour must cease stemming from one-liners and plot points, and start stemming from the characters simply behaving as their funny selves. Brooklyn Nine-Nine hit that sweet spot early. The characters' foibles and frictions were well-defined, and the actors bounced off each other with glee. At the start of this season, plot intervened — Holt was transferred out of the unit. Thankfully the folks in charge realized their mistake and brought him back home. Now everyone can get back to doing what they do best: pushing each other's buttons, and letting us chuckle at how "them" they are.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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## ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

**THIS WEEK:** Holiday Drinks

Two Yuletide favourites are apple cider and eggnog, however one of these bevvies belongs on the naughty list.

### PICK THIS

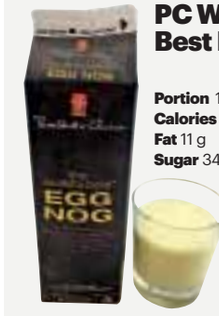
**PC Fresh Pressed Sweet Apple Cider**

**Portion** 1 cup
**Calories** 120
**Fat** 0 g
**Sugar** 28 g

### SKIP THIS

**PC World's Best Egg Nog**

**Portion** 1 cup
**Calories** 290
**Fat** 11 g
**Sugar** 34 g




### HERE'S WHY

**Equivalent to 2 small Grilled Chicken subs from Mr. Sub**

Eggnog packs over double the calories and has 11gm of fat (half of it saturated) compared to the fat-free cider. If you're spiking your 'nog, you're adding even more calories. The cider is purely fresh pressed apples with no filtration process. The sugar comes from the apples themselves. Heat the cider and add some cinnamon and nutmeg. Even a small amount of alcohol will still make for a healthier Yuletide beverage than the eggnog.

# Stay healthy this winter

As cold and flu season kicks into high gear, here's what you need to do to get your defenses ready and stay healthy this winter.

First things first — start with a shot of prevention. Vaccination is the number one way to reduce your risk of severe flu symptoms this year. If you want to learn more about the flu shot, ask your Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacist or visit shoppersdrugmart.ca/flushot.

Remember that not all seasonal illnesses are prevented by the flu vaccine. Cold and flu germs are easily spread through contact with contaminated surfaces — anything from door knobs and shopping cart handles to faucets and even items of clothing.

Scrub your hands well with soap and warm water for 15 to 20 seconds after touching anything that might carry germs. Be sure to have hand sanitizer nearby for when you can't wash.

Lack of sleep may compromise the immune system, so missing out on your zzzz's may make you more vulnerable to colds and flu. Sleep better by avoiding heavy meals or large amounts of liquid before bed. Studies suggest that sticking to a sleep schedule is also important for a good night's sleep.

SHUTTERSTOCK

Studies also show that vitamin D may help boost the immune system.

In winter, those of us in northern climates may be missing out on "the sunshine vitamin," so consider loading up on foods rich in vitamin D like milk and salmon. Enhance your diet with a vitamin D supplement or a multivitamin to help you stay healthy this winter.

# Feel better when you're under the weather

Even if you're careful about prevention, you still may come down with a bug this winter. Check with your pharmacist to see which medications may be right for you.

**For throat and chest**

Robitussin Cough Control Extra Strength with Mucus and Phlegm Relief works to relieve sore throat pain, dry coughs and chest congestion.

**For sinuses**

Otrivin® Saline Severe Congestion Relief is a powerful, naturally sourced nasal spray that unblocks nasal passages and relieves nasal and sinus congestion. Breathe Right® non-medicated nasal strips instantly open up the nose and are available for both adults and kids. Advil® Cold & Sinus opens airways by shrinking swollen nasal passages, making it easier to breathe.

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**Pete Rose's latest application for reinstatement to baseball was rejected by MLB commissioner Rob Manfred**

# Maas appeal lures Eskimos

CFL

## Grey Cup champs hire QB star of old to steer ship

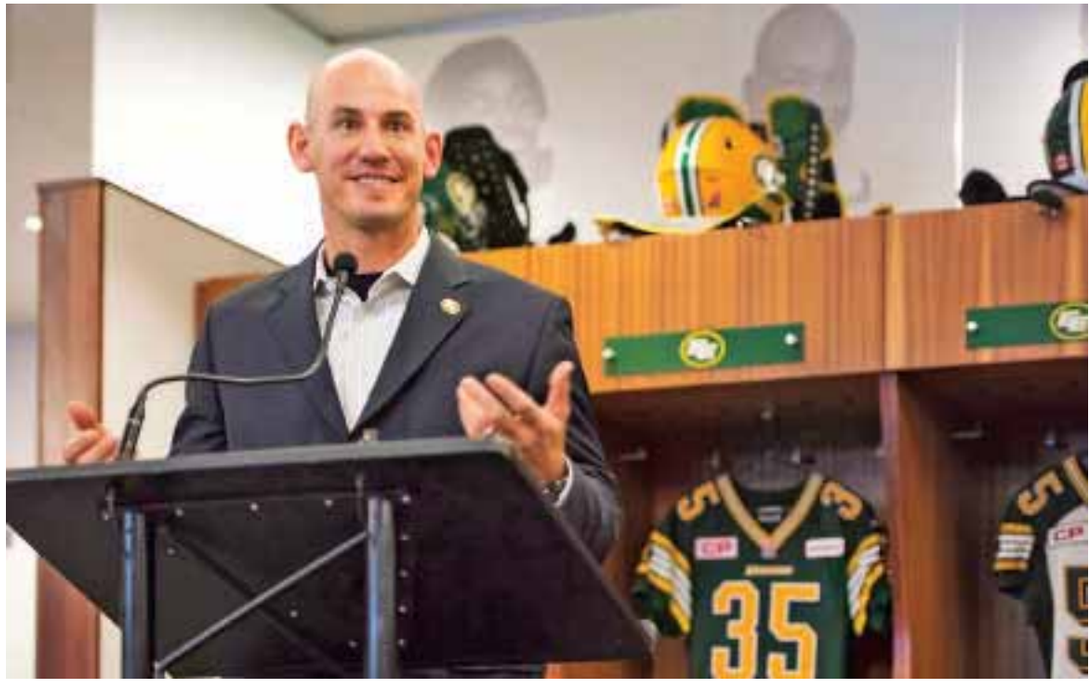
When Jason Maas was offered the position of head coach of the Grey Cup champion Edmonton Eskimos there was no hesitation whatsoever before he said yes.

The former Eskimos quarterback was introduced Monday as the team's new head coach, replacing Chris Jones who left to become vice-president of football operations, general manager and head coach of the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

Maas, with three Grey Cup rings to his credit — two while playing for Edmonton — said the opportunity was simply too good to pass up.

"I'm thrilled, I'm very passionate about the city and I'm glad to be back," Maas told a news conference in the Eskimos dressing room. "My goal was always at some point to come back to Edmonton. This is always where I wanted to end up."

Even he admitted, however, he didn't expect it to happen so quickly. He's been coaching only three years since retiring in 2011. He was quarterbacks and receivers coach for the Toronto Argonauts from 2012-14 and this past season was offensive co-ordinator and quarterbacks coach with the Ottawa Redblacks who lost the Grey Cup to Edmonton.



**The Edmonton Eskimos' new coach, Jason Maas, will follow Grey Cup-winning coach Chris Jones at Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton.** JOHN ULAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"I understand the expectations of Edmonton," he said. "I would prefer to come into a situation with great personnel and great staff and great people and when you're 14-4 and you've won the Grey Cup I believe it's obvious you have that here."

Maas said he will be making announcements in January on assistant coaches.

Still to be worked out between the Eskimos and the Redblacks is the issue of compensation. Traditionally CFL teams have not asked for compensation when coaches leave for better opportunities but Ottawa has asked. Hervey, who did not ask for compensation from Saskatchewan when Jones left, said he had no comment to make on the situation.

> **My goal was always at some point to come back to Edmonton.**
> Jason Maas

Maas spent nine years with Edmonton, 2000-05 and 2008-10, helping them to Grey Cup wins in 2002 and 2005 and was the Eskimos outstanding player in 2001 and 2004.

Returning to Edmonton, he said, will also provide the opportunity to reunite his family in a city they love.

"It's been a long journey. It's been four years of us being apart, with an understanding wife and kids, to allow me to have my passion for football and to realize a dream and a goal," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

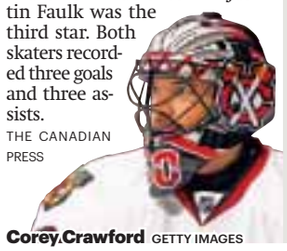
NHL

## Chicago's Crawford first star of the week

Goaltender Corey Crawford of the Chicago Blackhawks was named the NHL's first star of the week on Monday.

Crawford won all three of his starts for the week with a 0.33 goals-against average, .989 save percentage and two shutouts to help the Blackhawks climb into second place in the Central Division. Crawford earned a pair of shutouts, making 25 saves in a 2-0 victory over Winnipeg on Friday and 30 saves in a 4-0 triumph over Vancouver on Sunday.

Edmonton left-winger Taylor Hall was the second star and Carolina defenceman Justin Faulk was the third star. Both skaters recorded three goals and three assists. THE CANADIAN PRESS



**Corey.Crawford** GETTY IMAGES

### IN BRIEF

**3-game ban for Thompson**

Anaheim Ducks forward Nate Thompson was suspended Monday for three games without pay for an illegal check to the head of Carolina defenceman Justin Faulk during a 5-1 loss to the Hurricanes last week.

The NHL said Thompson will forfeit $25,806, which will go to the Players' Emergency Assistance Fund.

Thompson was assessed a major penalty for elbowing and a game misconduct following the hit on Faulk. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

## Bombers re-up with OL Daniels

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers have signed offensive lineman Jace Daniels to a two-year contract extension.

Daniels was eligible for free agency in February.

He played in seven games last season, starting six, before suffering a season-ending leg injury in August. Daniels played three times in 2014, all starts.

"Jace was a solid contributor along the offensive line for us before being injured last season," general manager Kyle Walters said in a release." THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **We envision him definitely competing for a starting spot on the line again in 2016.**
> Blue Bombers GM Kyle Walters on Jace Daniels

TENNIS

## Magazine honours Serena for great year

Serena Williams is Sports Illustrated's Sportsperson of the Year — the first female athlete honoured on her own by the magazine in more than 30 years.

Williams came within two matches of tennis' first calendar-year Grand Slam since 1988, a bid that ended with a semifinal loss at the U.S. Open.

In all, the 34-year-old American went 53-3 during 2015 with five titles, including at the Australian Open, French Open and Wimbledon. Williams was No. 1 in the WTA rankings all season.

"She was the most deserving person for the award. She had an amazing year. The way she won her events; the fact that she's done this for so many years at such a high level," said Paul Fichtenbaum, editor of the Sports Illustrated Group. "She was a terrific candidate in a year of terrific candidates."

**3**
**Number of majors Williams won in 2015**

The cover photo of Williams — in high heels, sitting on a throne — was "her idea, intended ... to express her own ideal of femininity, strength, power," managing editor Christian Stone wrote on SI.com.

Runner Mary Decker in 1983 was the last female athlete to earn the magazine's award by herself. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Serena Williams on SI cover.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# RECIPE Slow Cooker Butter Chicken

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A dreamy version of the traditional Indian dish using healthy coconut oil instead of butter.

**Ready in**
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 6 hours
**Serves 6**

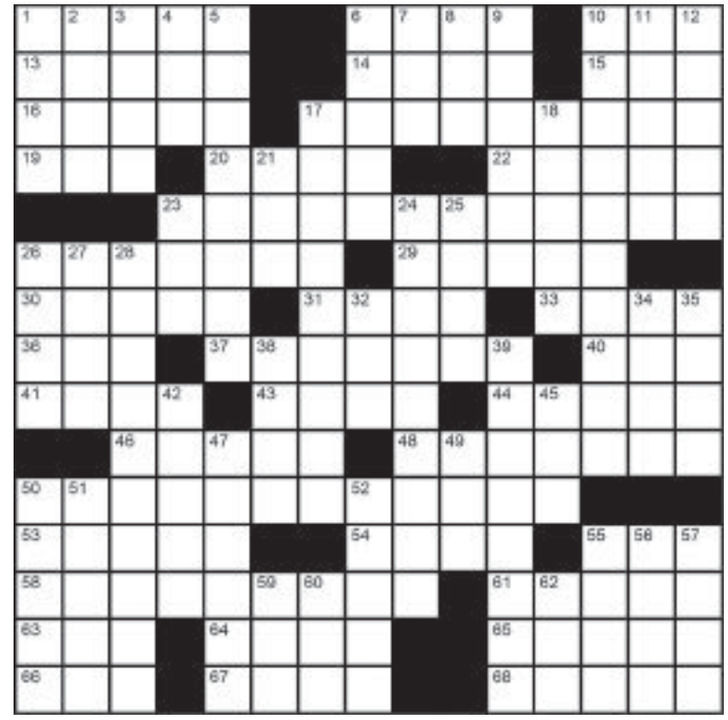
**Ingredients**
- 2 lb chicken thighs or breasts, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp minced ginger
- 147 ml tube of tomato paste
- 1 heaping Tbsp curry
- 1 400 ml can coconut milk
- 1/2 cup Greek yogurt
- 1/4 cup milk
- 2 Tbsp coconut oil
- Small handful of cilantro for garnish

**Directions**
**1.** Put everything in the slow cooker and stir it all around.
**2.** Close the lid. Set the timer for 6 hours. Don't worry if you need to be away from home for 8 hours or longer — it will be okay.
**3.** Serve with a big spoonful of jasmine rice and a sprinkling of cilantro.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Cook the broccoli
6. Actor Jared
10. Bar serving
13. Red Hot __ Peppers
14. Architect Mr. Saarinen
15. 'Passion' suffix
16. Paddled
17. Vancouver's province denizen, British __
19. Suit part
20. Intend
22. "Doctor Zhivago" (1965) character
23. Song from Leonard Cohen's 2014 'Popular Problems' album that goes "But I was taken out of Egypt / I was bound to a burden...": 3 wds.
26. Mr. Hall of TV talk
29. Buddy of "The Beverly Hillbillies"
30. __ Ste. Marie, ON
31. Coat the highway
33. Increases twofold, for short
36. Baby dog
37. Cobblers, at times
40. 'King' of France
41. Winter hill ride
43. A __ _ (Record company division)
44. Take away weapons
46. Steal, archaically
48. Canadian comic actor Rick
50. Foothills of The Rockies destination in BC known for dinosaur tracks: 2 wds.
53. Has __ __ (Is able to escape)
54. "Dedicated to the __ _ Love" by The Shirelles
55. "Huh...?"
58. Hockey: Sidney Crosby's nickname: 3 wds.
61. Someone sympathetic
63. Hot season in Montreal
64. Crossed out
65. Stave off
66. Hotdog's li'l topping
67. Off-road rides, commonly
68. Loans

**DOWN**
1. Glaswegian
2. Popular cuisine
3. Ireland
4. Bitter __
5. 15th or 16th on Salt Lake City's state, variantly
12. Ms. Suvari's
17. Kitchen gadget: 2 wds.
18. Blatted
21. Verdi aria: "__ Tu"
23. Opera singing style, __ canto
24. Leonard Cohen song (from the album at #23-Across) which is the theme tune of the most recent season of HBO's "True Detective"
25. Trucker-to-trucker talker
26. Some slitherers
27. Mr. Julia
28. Linda Evangelista, for one
32. Municipal council member, e.g.
34. Ms. Loughlin
35. A famous Molly
38. Icicle holder
39. __ mask (Operating room necessity)
42. Launch
45. Hebrides 'no'
47. Tennis legend Ms. Gibson
49. Keats specialty
50. Electroshock-er
51. Amalgamate
52. Banned-in-sports substances, slang-style
55. Small songbird
56. Farm group
57. Mr. Linkletter's
59. __. number
60. Mr. Bacon, briefly
62. Street sort, shortly
6. A famous Tea
7. Conger, for one
8. __-Paz (Canadian Hip Hop group)
9. Pizazzes
10. Kellogg's cereal with 'Two Scoops!': 2 wds.
11. Someone from calendars

# IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
You seem more easy-going and that's good. However, where money is concerned you cannot afford to be too laid-back or you will attract hangers-on and spongers and find yourself out of pocket. Watch your cashflow.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
Partnership matters will go smoothly after the upsets and upheavals of recent weeks. You are a lot less competitive, and a lot more relaxed, in one-to-one situations.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
Cosmic activity in your opposite sign of Sagittarius will remind you that you cannot always be top dog. If you want to get things done you must be ready to work with others.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
Avoid stressful situations, especially if you are the kind of Cancer who gets upset when things go wrong. Nothing can be allowed to put your health at risk.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
Raise your sights and show the world what you are capable of. Don't allow yourself to be distracted by trivial things, and don't try to be all things to all people.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Others may complain that nothing is happening but life is what you make of it and you are determined to make something really good. Show all the moaning minnies what a positive attitude can accomplish!

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do you carry on along your present course or do you change direction and try something different? It might help to talk it over with friends and family. They can see your situation from a less personal perspective.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You need to take your cashflow situation more seriously than you have been. If resources are low then there are only two ways to build them up again: spend less or earn more.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't be scared to take a few chances and try your hand at something new. Leave your comfort zone and accomplish something truly worthwhile.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you do a good deed today you will be rewarded for it in the future. You would do it anyway even if you knew you would get nothing out of it — that's the kind of person you are!

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
What's coming into your life may seem like something you haven't earned but that's the wrong way to look at it. If you're being favoured it's because you have done something in the past that has helped others.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20
Flattery will take you a long way, but hard work will take you further. Cosmic activity in and around the career area of your chart makes it easy to impress with ideas and enthusiasm.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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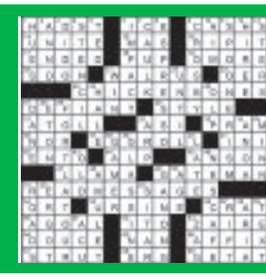

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| 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
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